

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1.-24. **(Cancelled)**

Claim 25. (Original) A process for making a supported catalyst comprising:
combining a catalytic active component, a catalyst support optionally containing a promoter therein, and an acid material to form a slurry;
adjusting the slurry to a pH of about 7 to about 8; and
recovering the supported catalyst from the slurry.

Claim 26. (Original) A process for making a supported catalyst comprising:
dispersing a catalytic active component within pores of a catalyst support, wherein the catalyst support optionally contains a promoter therein; and
converting the catalytic active component to an active metal complex intermediate at a pH of about 7 to about 8, the active metal complex intermediate coating surfaces of the catalyst support.

Claim 27. (Previously Amended) The process of claim 25, further comprising calcining the supported catalyst.

Claim 28. (Original) The process of claim 27, wherein the supported catalyst is calcined at a temperature of from about 800°C to about 970°C.

Claim 29. (Original) The process of claim 27, wherein the supported catalyst is calcined at about 960 °C.

Claim 30. (Previously Amended) The process of claim 27, wherein the supported catalyst is calcined in the presence of an oxidizing gas.

Claim 31. (Original) The process of claim 25, wherein the pH of the slurry is adjusted by adding a basic material to the slurry.

Claim 32. (Original) The process of claim 31, wherein the pH of the slurry is adjusted by adding a basic material to the slurry and heating the slurry.

Claim 33. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 25, wherein the catalytic active component is a transition metal salt and/or transition metal oxide.

Claim 34. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 33, wherein the transition metal salt is selected from the group consisting of transition metal oxides, transition metal nitrates, transition metal carbonates, transition metal oxalates, and transition metal formates.

Claim 35. (Original) The process of claim 33, wherein the transition metal of the transition metal salt is selected from the group consisting of nickel, cobalt, copper, chromium, iron, manganese, platinum, palladium, rhodium and ruthenium.

Claim 36. (Original) The process of claim 35, wherein the transition metal is nickel.

Claim 37. (Previously Amended) The process of claim 25, wherein the catalyst support has an apparent porosity in the range of about 15% to about 80%.

Claim 38. (Previously Amended) The process of claim 25, wherein the catalyst support has a mean pore diameter in the range of about 0.05 microns to about 20 microns.

Claim 39. (Previously Amended) The process of claim 25, wherein the catalyst support is a ceramic.

Claim 40. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 25, wherein the catalyst support is selected from the group consisting of alumina, silica, magnesia, titania, zirconia, beryllia, thoria, zeolites, and calcium aluminates.

Claim 41. (Previously Amended) The process of claim 35, wherein the catalyst support is alumina.

Claim 42. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 25, wherein the promoter is a rare-earth metal, rare-earth metal oxide, rare-earth hydroxide, and/or rare-earth metal salt.

Claim 43. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 41, wherein the rare-earth metal is selected from the group consisting of scandium, yttrium, lanthanum, lanthanide metals and mixtures thereof.

Claim 44. (Original) The process of claim 43, wherein the rare-earth metal is lanthanum.

Claim 45. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 42, wherein the rare-earth metal salt is selected from the group consisting of rare-earth oxides, rare-earth nitrates, rare-earth carbonates, rare-earth hydroxides, rare-earth oxalates, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 46. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 4245, wherein the rare-earth metal oxide salt is lanthanum oxide.

Claim 47. (Original) The process of claim 25, wherein the acid material is nitric acid.

Claim 48. (Original) The process of claim 26, wherein the catalyst support is

treated with an acid material.

Claim 49. (Previously Amended) The process of claim 25, wherein the pH is about 7.5.

Claim 50. (Previously Amended) The process of claim 31, wherein the basic material is selected from the group consisting of ammonium hydroxides, metal hydroxides, and ethylene glycol.

Claim 51. (Previously Amended) The process of claim 25, wherein the catalytic active component is from about 20% to about 80% by weight and the catalyst support optionally containing promoter is from about 20% to about 80% by weight based on the total weight of the catalytic active component and the catalyst support optionally containing promoter.

Claim 52. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 51, wherein the catalyst support contains from about 1% by weight to about 20% by weight of the promoter catalyst support

Claim 53. (Previously Amended) The process of claim 25, further comprising reducing the supported catalyst.

Claim 54. (Original) The process of claim 53, wherein the supported catalyst is reduced using hydrogen.

Claim 55. (Previously Amended) A supported catalyst formed by the process of claim 25.

Claim 56. (Currently Amended) The supported catalyst of claim 455 for a steam reforming reaction.

Claim 57. (Original) The supported catalyst of claim 55 for an autothermal reforming reaction, wherein the promoter is present.

Claim 58. (Cancelled)

Claim 59. (Original) The supported catalyst of claim 55 for both a steam reforming reaction and an autothermal reforming reaction, wherein the promoter is present.

Claim 60. (Cancelled)

Claim 61. (Cancelled)